



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/272,955	03/19/1999	ALBERT D. BAKER	15-5-2-5-4	6330

7590 01/23/2002
RYAN & MASON
90 FOREST AVENUE
LOCUST VALLEY, NY 11560

EXAMINER

LAO, LUN YI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/272,955

Applicant(s)
Albert D. Baker et al

Examiner
Lao, Lun-yi

Art Unit
2673



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

Lun-Yi Lao
Primary Examiner

Art Unit: 2673

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-14 and 16- 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al(5,965,655).

As to claims 1-2, 8-9, 11, 12, 18-19 and 22, Suzuki et al teach a method for controlling a terminal(1100a or 1100b or 2100) on a communication system comprising the steps of utilizing an automated set of operations to generate information representative of a state machine for controlling labels for a plurality soft keys(1A-1D) of the terminal(see figures 2-4D, 5-9; 24, 28; column 4, lines 35-68; columns 5-7 and column 8, lines 1-5).

As to claims 11 and 22, Suzuki et al teach a memory(1109 or 1219) for storing at least a portion of information(see figures 26, 27 and column 24, lines 10-15 and lines 41-43).

As to claims 8-9 and 18-19, Suzuki et al teach a method for generating different set of operations for different state machine(see figures 3, 25).

Art Unit: 2673

As to claims 10 and 20-21, Suzuki et al teach the set of operations are implemented at least in part in software associated with a switch of the system(see figures 24-26; column 23, lines 27-68 and column 24, lines 1-20

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al(5,956,655) in view of Lin et al(6,061,512).

Suzuki et al fail to insert and update the labels of soft keys.

Lin et al teach a method for adding and updating labels of soft keys(see figure 19 and column 29, lines 15-35). It would have been obvious to have modified Suzuki et al with the teaching of Lin et al, so the functions of soft keys can be modified.

Art Unit: 2673

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Baals et al teach a telephone having a plurality set of soft key labels.

Gulley et al teach a telephone having a touch screen key pad(126).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lun-yi, Lao whose telephone number is (703) 305-4873.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at (703) 305-4938.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

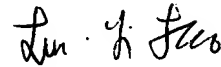
Application/Control Number: 09/272,955

Page 5

Art Unit: 2673

January 17, 2002

Lun-yi Lao

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lun-Yi Lao".

Lun-Yi Lao
Primary Examiner